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Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library

2-2011

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Himmelfarb Headlines



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Director's Desk

Evolving Workshops

The Himmelfarb Library offers a selection of workshops each semester highlighting Library resources, such as Scopus and PubMed, and software applications, such as RefWorks and spreadsheets. These workshop offerings continue and you can find full information on upcoming sessions on the Library's [class schedule](#). However, our users increasingly work at the edge of the digital frontier and, just as the Library has evolved from a print to an electronic world, our classes are evolving to help you navigate the emerging world of electronic publishing and social media. Three new classes are planned for spring 2011. We hope you can join us for one or all of them! See below for full information. Please feel free to call or e-mail me with any new ideas for workshops (mlbaml@gwumc.edu, 202-994-1826).



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Tell us a little bit about your current position or research/projects.

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my research and am very fortunate to be able to work in the areas of gender based violence, community health, children's health and program development and evaluation.

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Large LCD Monitors

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Meet Catherine Harris, Manager of Bloedorn Technology Center

Bloedorn Technology Center's Manager, Catherine Harris has seen the Bloedorn grow from providing class lectures recorded on audiocassettes to today's high tech web-based software collection.

A native of the Washington, DC area, Catherine studied music at Vassar, and earned her master's degree at GW in musicology, with a concentration in 20th century music. She began her career at Himmelfarb Library in 1985 working evenings at the "Bloedorn AV Study Center" - the original name of Bloedorn. Lynn Povanda, who currently runs Classroom Services, was her first supervisor and on her first day at Himmelfarb, Lynn gave her a tour and showed her how to run the duplication service for all the MSI, MSII and PA class lectures, which at the time were all recorded on audiocassettes. Catherine remembers when there were only two medical computer programs available to students, accessible via dial-up that sometimes took ten minutes to load. CD-ROMs and network towers made software access much easier, and now the library is purchasing a growing number of web-based programs in the health sciences and public health. Today, users can access many of these specialty software from home.



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Delving into Digital Dirt: Social Networking for Individuals in Health Care

The popularity and prevalence of social media tools such as Facebook, MySpace, and Twitter has grown dramatically in recent years. During this session, we will discuss the social media do's & don'ts for health professionals - to help you to avoid posting content that may be detrimental to your professional career while developing a positive online presence using these tools. This session is designed for students and those who work with students. It will review the importance of a professional online presence and provide tips for creating an online professional presence. Sample guidelines from professional organizations will be reviewed.

Introduction to Adobe Acrobat 9 Pro

This workshop will focus on converting different file types into PDF documents, creating PDF documents from web pages, adding multimedia to PDF documents (i.e. Flash), and the basics of creating and editing forms. Attendees will have the opportunity to create and convert PDF documents and generate forms during the class. Look for Advanced Adobe Acrobat 9 Pro in April 2011.

Integrating Online Calendar Tools into Everyday Apps

This short workshop will help you incorporate your GroupWise calendar into your Google apps and your mobile devices. Learn how to keep your calendar at your fingertips! Also coming in April!

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Tell us a little bit about your current position or research/projects.

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What has been your biggest professional challenge?

The biggest challenge has been to balance. Being in DC and in public health we are incredibly fortunate to live and work in an area that is full of interesting opportunities and for me it's a challenge to know when to say 'when'.

What has been your most memorable moment at GW?

There are so many!!! Do I have to name just one?

How did you become interested in your field?

Serendipity... I actually fell into Public Health. You never know what you are going to find and when, I always advise students to be open to everything around you. I always thought I knew what I wanted to do when I graduated college... but when I decided to take a year off between undergraduate and graduate I took this as a time to look around me and realized I had not explored all that was available... so I went to the beach, worked and lived at an inn and enjoyed the sun/surf. After a couple of months, I got a call from my undergraduate advisor and he offered me a lab tech position at Syracuse University. Since it was at a university, I could take classes for free so I took two classes that focused on health and communities. Life changing... The light bulbs starting going off... and that set the stage for my career. I applied to public health schools and fell in love with everything the field had to offer. I grabbed every opportunity that came my way to be involved in the community and I found that I could not get enough. My passion lies in working with people to discover their lived lives, and be able to bring what I can to create programs that build upon the resources that exist.

My family always instilled in me to make sure you choose a field that makes you want to get up in the morning... For me it's public health. I get to work with great people who have the same passion and you can be sure that every day is sure to bring a new adventure.

What library resources or services have you found to be the most useful?

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You all do so much. If I had to say what was the most useful it would have to be the support in helping the students and faculty to become informed consumers of information. Working with you all on the UCSW (University Committee on the Status of Women; Faculty and Librarians) I admire the dedication you have to GW.

Whom do you admire?

Ok, this is totally sappy, but my mom and dad. My mom is the first to graduate from high school and my dad is the first in his family to graduate from college. They have shown me time and again the power of education.

How do you spend your free time? (or What do you do to relax?)

Hahahaha... as you know, spending time running after my boys. I'm always fascinated when I look at the world through their eyes.

What advice would you give to a new faculty member just starting at GW?

Seek out support, GW (especially the SPHHS) has a great faculty and staff who really know what they are doing. I could not have survived without the support I have gotten from so many people who are willing to help... you just need to ask.

What are your future plans?

To never keep trying, to move forward, maintain balance, discover, and have fun!

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While it is convenient to carry your laptop computer around with you and work on it at your leisure, it is much harder to have several people working from a single laptop at the same time. Plugging a laptop into a large monitor that can display the laptop screen to the entire group makes it much easier for everyone to view the image, website, or document. In the last two years, Himmelfarb Library has purchased twelve 42" LCD monitors for small group study rooms on the second and third floors. These monitors are compatible with both PC and Macintosh laptops. Cables to connect laptops to the monitors are available from the Help Desk in the Bloedorn Technology Center on the third floor of Himmelfarb Library. The rooms are available for use by medical center faculty, staff and students on a first-come, first-served basis. Bring your group project, staff meeting, or brainstorming session to the Library and take advantage of the available technology.

Where: Himmelfarb 304A-G, 304I-K, 203H, 203I

What: Any type of collaborative work including PowerPoint presentations, grant proposals, slide study, exam preparation, strategic planning.

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Institutional repositories entered the academic scene in the early 2000s with MIT's Dspace, the California Digital Library eScholarship Repository, and the University of Virginia and Cornell University's FEDORA project. A position paper published in 2002 titled "The Case for Institutional Repositories" cites two important advantages a repository can provide an academic institution:

"1) a central component in reforming scholarly communication by stimulating innovation in a disaggregated publishing structure; and 2) they serve as tangible indicators of an institution's quality, thus increasing its visibility, prestige, and public value."¹

Dspace, the software resulting from the collaboration of MIT and Hewlett Packert, was acquired by the Washington Research Libraries Consortium (WRLC) to host the ALADIN Research Commons. Leah Pellegrino, Head of Collection Content Organization, investigated options for Himmelfarb Library's IR and recommended joining with WRLC on the Dspace platform. After some configuration was done to isolate GWUMC's repository space, the new GWUMC Research Commons was launched last month.

GWUMC faculty and staff are encouraged to submit their research posters, conference presentations, working papers, departmental newsletters and other materials that are not otherwise easily available. A [submission form](#) for work is now available on Himmelfarb Library's website. Authors who submit their publications retain their authorship rights and can choose a license for citing or using their posted works. Users are notified when their submitted documents are available.

For more information on the GWUMC Research Commons, contact Leah Pellegrino at mlblcp@gwumc.edu or 202-994-3685.

Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition. The Case for institutional repositories: A SPARC position paper. August 2002. http://scholarship.utm.edu/20/1/SPARC_102.pdf

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Through the years Bloedorn shifted dramatically from traditional AV technologies to focus more attention on computer technology and support. Catherine recalls that suddenly the faculty began visiting Bloedorn, not to borrow the usual slide projector, but to get help learning PowerPoint. Soon it became apparent the old name - Bloedorn AV Study Center - no longer reflected what was happening in the department and needed an update.

One of the future plans underway for Bloedorn is to shift the video collection entirely to DVD format. Bloedorn has a wonderful collection of dissection videos in VHS format, but according to Catherine, they rarely get a second look. The goal is to provide up-to-date content in a format users will be more likely to grab off the shelves. One of the newest additions is a number of Board Review series on DVD in various clinical areas that Catherine suggests our Medical Residents will probably want to check out.

Catherine predicts the physical media collection may eventually move to web-based. The biggest benefits of web-based trend will be the opportunity for users to access the collection directly from their laptops or home computers. Search the [Library's online catalog](#) to locate Bloedorn's collection. The materials are located at Bloedorn and are checked out at the Circulation Desk on the First Floor.

[Bloedorn Technology Center](#)

Phone: (202) 994-2857

Location: Third floor of the Himmelfarb Library

Available at the Bloedorn Technology Center:

- > 3D anatomical models and skeletons
- >

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Nearly 150 DVD titles. (Topics range from "Management of the Hospitalized Patient" to "The Chicago Infectious Disease Board Review Course")

- Software: including statistical analysis and programs for the Health Sciences and Public Health.
- Media Development Workstation (includes TurningPoint, website development, image manipulation software, etc.)
- Curricular Materials Development Cart (coming soon)

[Bloedorn Technology Center Help Desk Hours:](#)

Monday-Thursday: 12:00 noon - 12:00 midnight

Friday: 12:00pm - 8:00pm

Saturday: 12:00pm - 8:00pm

Sunday: 12:00 noon - 12:00 midnight

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